

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend paragraph 0014 of the application as published (US 20070264715) as follows:

[0014] It has been discovered that by treating bacteria with peptide hydrolase it is possible to downregulate quorum sensing. The action of the peptide hydrolase prevents LuxR or a homologue of LuxR from activating transcription. This is possible due to the presence of LuxR (or its homologues) on the outer membrane of bacteria. The invention therefore provides a method of downregulating the ability of LuxR (or a homologue thereof) to activate transcription comprising treating LuxR (or the homologue) with a peptide hydrolase. Preferably the peptide hydrolase used in the method of the invention is selected from group 3.4 as defined by the Nomenclature Committee of the International Union of Biochemistry (~~see <http://www.chem.qmw.ac.uk/iubmb/enzyme/>~~). In the case of LasR, preferred peptide hydrolases are Arg-C proteinase, Asp-N endopeptidase, BNPS Skatole, CNBr, chymotrypsin, clostripain, formic acid, glutamyl endopeptidase, iodosobenzoic acid, lysC, NTCB (2-nitro-5-thiocyanobenzoic acid), pepsin, proline-endopeptidase, proteinase K, Staphylococcal peptidase I, thermolysin and trypsin.

Please amend paragraph 0028 of the application as published (US 20070264715) as follows:

[0028] Peptide hydrolases have been classified by the Nomenclature Committee of the International Union of Biochemistry (~~see <http://www.chem.qmw.ac.uk/iubmb/enzyme/>~~) and can be found in group 3.4. There are currently 19 families in this group. The term "Family" is used to describe a group of peptide hydrolases in which each member shows an evolutionary relationship to at least one other member, either throughout the whole sequence or at least in the part of the sequence responsible for catalytic activity. The name of each Family reflects the catalytic activity type of the proteases in the Family. Thus, serine proteases belong to the S family, threonine proteases belong to the T family, aspartyl proteases belong to the A family, cysteine proteases belong to the C family and metalloproteases belong to the M family. Certain proteases have an unknown mechanism

of action and belong to the "U" family. Examples of proteases include, trypsin, chymotrypsin, elastase, carboxypeptidase A and pepsin.